NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

INDEX NO. 950150/2019

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 09/19/2019

SUPREME COURT STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

PAUL F. PAOLICELLI, JR.,

Plaintiff,

-against-

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK, OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH A/K/A ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL, AND SOCIETY OF THE CATHOLIC APOSTOLATE - QUEEN OF THE APOSTLES PROVINCE A/K/A THE PALLOTTINES,

**Index No.:** 

Plaintiff Designates
NEW YORK
County as the place of trial

The basis of venue is the Defendant PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS

# **SUMMONS**

Plaintiff reside at

**County of Palm Beach County** 

**Defendants.** -----X

To the abovenamed Defendants

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance, and the Plaintiff's Attorney within 20 days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

New York, New York

Dated: September 17, 2019

Patrick Noaker

NOAKER LAW FIRM LLC

1600 Utica Avenue S., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor St. Louis Park, MN 55416 Telephone: (952) 491-6798 patrick@noakerlaw.com

and

Stephan H. Peskin **TOLMAGE, PESKIN, HARRIS & FALICK**20 Vesey Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor

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and

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#### **Defendants' Addresses:**

Archdiocese of New York 1101 First Ave. New York, NY 10022

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church 70 Park Hill Avenue Yonkers, NY 10701

Society of the Catholic Apostolate – Queen of the Apostles Province a/k/a the Pallottines 448 E. 116<sup>th</sup> Street
New York, NY 10029

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SUPREME COURT STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

-----X Index No.:

PAUL F. PAOLICELLI, JR.,

Plaintiff,

VERIFIED COMPLAINT

-against-

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK, OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH, A/K/A ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL, AND SOCIETY OF THE CATHOLIC APOSTOLATE - QUEEN OF THE APOSTLES PROVINCE A/K/A THE PALLOTTINES,

Defendants.

-----X

Plaintiff, Paul F. Paolicelli Jr., by and through undersigned counsel, complaining of the Defendants, upon information and belief, alleges as follows:

### PARTIES, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE

- 1. This Complaint arises from the sexual battery of Plaintiff by Fr. Barry Bossa, on or about the summer of 1991 or 1992. This incident occurred while Plaintiff was a parishioner at Church of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.
  - 2. Plaintiff is an adult resident of the State of Florida and is otherwise *sui juris*.
- 3. Defendant Archdiocese of New York is a Roman Catholic Diocese and is an unincorporated non-profit business entity licensed to and doing business in The State of New York with a principal place of business at 1011 1<sup>st</sup> Ave., New York, NY 10022.
- 4. Defendant Our Lady of Mount Carmel church a/k/a Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel (hereinafter "Our Lady of Mt. Carmel") is a Roman Catholic parish within the Archdiocese of New York and an unincorporated New York business entity with a principal place of business at 70 Park Hill Ave., Yonkers, New York 10701.

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5. Defendant Society of the Catholic Apostolate – Queen of the Apostles Province a/k/a the Pallottines (hereinafter "Pallotines") is a Catholic Religious Order and a non-profit business entity conducting business in the State of New York with its principal place of business at 448 E. 116<sup>th</sup> St., New York, New York 10029.

- Venue is proper in this Court because the Defendant Archdiocese has its principal 6. place of business in New York County.
- The provisions of Section 1602 of the CPLR do not apply to the within action 7. including, but not limited to, nondelegable duty and/or the doctrine of respondeat superior.
- Plaintiff brings this suit within the extended time period as provided for in Sections 8. 208 and 214-G of the Civil Practice Law.
- 9. Jurisdiction is proper because this Complaint seeks monetary damages in excess of \$25,000.00, exclusive of interest, costs, and attorney's fees.
- At all times material, Fr. Barry Bossa was an ordained Roman Catholic priest 10. employed by and an agent of Defendants Archdiocese of New York, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, and the Pallotines from 1981 to 2002.
- Upon information and belief, from the early to mid-1970s, Fr. Barry Bossa was a 11. religious brother in training for priesthood at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Bridgewater, Massachusetts in the Archdiocese of Boston. Here, Fr. Barry Bossa worked as a CCD teacher, youth choir instructor, and he oversaw the altar servers.
- On October 17, 1981, Fr. Barry Bossa was ordained in the Society of Catholic 12. Apostolate a/k/a the Pallottines by Bishop Joseph M. Pernicone, Auxiliary Bishop of New York.
- 13. From 1981 to 1986, Fr. Barry Bossa was assigned to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, New York, New York.

are not indexed or listed in the Official Catholic Directory.

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14. Upon information and belief, from 1987 to 1988, Fr. Barry Bossa's assignments

- 15. In 1988, Fr. Barry Bossa worked as a Pallotine brother at St. Cecilia's Parish, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.
- 1988 to 2002, Fr. Barry Bossa was assigned to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Yonkers, 16. New York in the Archdiocese of New York.
- 17. In a 2002 lawsuit, Fr. Barry Bossa was accused of sexually abusing two boys, ages 8 and 10, in the 1970s while working as a brother in training at St. Thomas Aquinas Church.
- In 2002, within a few days of the filing of the lawsuit, the Pallottines sent Fr. Barry 18. Bossa to Rome, where he lived at the Pallottine order's regional offices in a neighborhood north of the Vatican.
- 19. In 2003, prosecutors in Plymouth County, Massachusetts filed charges against Fr. Bossa for sexual assaults on four boys and sought his extradition from Rome.
  - 20. Fr. Barry Bossa died in Italy on May 20, 2007.
- 21. At all times relevant, Defendant Archdiocese of New York was the legal owner and/or tenant/occupier of the church located at 70 Park Hill Ave., Yonkers, NY 10701.
- 22. At all times relevant, Defendant Our Lady of Mt. Carmel was the legal owner and/or tenant/occupier of the church located at 70 Park Hill Ave., Yonkers, NY 10701.
- 23. At all times relevant, Defendant Society of the Catholic Apostolate – Queen of the Apostles Province a/k/a the Pallotines was the legal owner and/or tenant/occupier of the church located at 70 Park Hill Ave., Yonkers, NY 10701.
- 24. By holding Fr. Barry Bossa out as safe to work with children, and by undertaking the custody, supervision of, and/or care of the minor Plaintiff, Defendants entered into a special

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relationship with the minor Plaintiff. As a result of Plaintiff being a minor, and by Defendant's undertaking the care and guidance of the then vulnerable Plaintiff, Plaintiff was uniquely

vulnerable, without his parents and incapable of self-protection.

25. Furthermore, Defendants, by holding themselves out as being able to provide a safe

environment for children, solicited and/or accepted this position of empowerment. This

empowerment prevented the Plaintiff from effectively protecting himself, and Defendants thus

entered into a special relationship with Plaintiff. By holding themselves out as a safe, moral, and

trusted institution to Plaintiff's parents, Defendants induced Plaintiff's parents to entrust their child

to Defendants and thereby deprived Plaintiff of the protection of his family.

26. At all times material, Fr. Barry Bossa's sexual abuse of Plaintiff was foreseeable.

The problem of clergy sexual abuse of minors is well-documented throughout the history of the

Roman Catholic Church. As far back as 1051, St. Peter Damian wrote in the Book of Gomorrah

that clergy who defiled boys should be dismissed from holy orders. (Book of Gomorrah, Ch. 6).

Later, St. Peter Damian wrote in his Rule of the Monastery of Compludo, about the punishment for

"A cleric or monk who seduces youths or young boys" being public flogging, loss of tonsure and

six months in jail, among other punishment. In 1143 or 1144, a professor at the University of

Bologna named Gratian, known as the "Father of the Science of Canon Law," identified in his

work the *Decretum*, the sexual sin by a priest that he called *stuprum pueri*, which is the sexual use

of boys by an adult male.

27. In 1961, the Vatican issued an instruction on the training of candidates for the

priesthood, which was based upon the 1917 Code of Canon Law which stated:

Advancement to religious vows and ordination should be barred to those who are afflicted

with evil tendencies to homosexuality or pederasty, since for them the common life and

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priestly ministry would constitute serious dangers.

This knowledge that Catholic clergy were sexually abusing minors continued 28.

through the middle ages and into recent history. In 1962, Pope John XXIII approved the

publication De Modo Procedendi in Causis Solicitationis, a special procedural law for solicitation

of sex in the confessional. This document contained prohibitions prohibiting clergy from having

sex with minors under the age of sixteen. This document was distributed to every bishop and

major religious superior in the world and was to be kept by them with the deepest secrecy. In

addition, this document reflected the Catholic Church's insistence on maintaining the highest

degree of secrecy regarding the worst sexual crimes perpetrated by clergy.

29. In 1947, a priest named Fr. Gerald Fitzgerald founded a religious order of priests

called the Servants of the Paracletes. This religious order was founded in order to assist and treat

Catholic clergy who experienced mental health problems. By 1952, Fr. Fitzgerald wrote that he

had already treated a handful of priests who had sexually abused minors. By 1963, the Paracletes

were treating so many sexually abusive clergy that they developed a shorthand code, "code 3," to

describe the offense. By 1966, the Paracletes began specializing in treatment of pedophile Catholic

clergy.

As early as 1971, the issue of sexual misconduct by clergy was being discussed in 30.

the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Bishop Bernard Flanagan, Bishop of Worchester

(Massachusetts) testified that as early as February 1971, there had been discussions about sexual

misconduct among priests. According to Bishop Flanagan, "I think by 1971 I had heard of other

cases of this type [sic] sexual misconduct and I knew that they were taking place in other dioceses

too."

31. That same year, Dr. Conrad Baars and Dr. Anna Terruwe presented a scholarly

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paper titled The Role of the Church in the Causation, Treatment and Prevention of the Crisis in the Priesthood" to the 1971 Synod of Bishops at the Vatican and to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops about psychiatric problems in Catholic clergy and how psychosexual immaturity manifested itself in heterosexual and homosexual activity.

- 32. In 1990, psychologist and priest, A.W. Richard Sipe, published a study involving 1,500 priests that concluded that six (6) percent of priests were sexually involved with minors.
- 33. In 1985, the public prosecution of a priest in Lafayette, Louisiana led to the creation of the 100-page document titled "The Problem of Sexual Molestation by Roman Catholic Clergy: Meeting the Problem in a Comprehensive and Responsible Manner" by Fr. Thomas Doyle, F. Ray Mouton and Fr./Dr. Michael Peterson. This document was distributed to every Catholic Bishop and religious order ordinary in the United States. A significant portion of this document describes how significant that the sexual abuse of children by Catholic clergy had become.
- 34. Defendants allowed Fr. Barry Bossa to have unsupervised and unlimited access to minor children, at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Yonkers, New York, located at the time within the Archdiocese of New York.
- At all times material, Fr. Barry Bossa was employed by Defendant Archdiocese of 35. New York.
- At all times material, Fr. Barry Bossa was employed by Defendant Our Lady of Mt. 36. Carmel.
- 37. At all times material, Fr. Barry Bossa was employed by DefendantSociety of the Catholic Apostolate – Queen of the Apostles Province a/k/a the Pallotines.
- 38. At all times material, Fr. Barry Bossa remained under the direct supervision, employ, and control of the Defendants Archdiocese of New York.

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At all times material, Fr. Barry Bossa remained under the direct supervision, 39.

employ and control of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.

At all times material, Fr. Barry Bossa remained under the direct supervision, 40.

employ and control of Society of the Catholic Apostolate – Queen of the Apostels Province a/k/a

the Pallottines.

Upon information and belief, before Plaintiff was sexually abused by Fr. Barry 41.

Bossa, Defendants had actual or constructive knowledge of material facts regarding Fr. Barry

Bossa's sexual misconduct, impulses, and behavior.

42. Despite clear indications of danger, Defendant's took no steps to discover the

specific nature of Fr. Barry Bossa's problems or to determine whether he was fit to work with

children or to protect children from him, thereby increasing the likelihood that Plaintiff would be

harmed.

43. Plaintiff was raised in a devout Roman Catholic family, regularly celebrated mass,

received the sacraments, and participated in church-related activities. Plaintiff, therefore,

developed great admiration, trust, reverence, and respect for the Roman Catholic Church and its

agents, the Archdiocese of New York and its agents, including the Archbishop, and Fr. Barry

Bossa.

44. Defendants held Fr. Barry Bossa out as a qualified Roman Catholic priest, and

undertook the education, religious instruction, and spiritual and emotional guidance of Plaintiff.

The Archbishop exercised a direct role over Plaintiff. Accordingly, Plaintiff placed trust in

Defendants so that Defendants and their agents gained superiority and influence over Plaintiff.

Defendants entered into a special relationship with the Plaintiff and his family.

45. Defendants owed Plaintiff a duty of reasonable care because it assumed duties owed

within the Archdiocese of New York.

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to Plaintiff and had superior knowledge about the risk that Fr. Barry Bossa posed to Plaintiff, the risk of abuse in general in its programs, and/or the risks that their facilities posed to minor children. Defendants had the duty to protect the moral purity of Plaintiff and other Roman Catholic children

- Defendants owed Plaintiff a duty of reasonable care because they assumed that duty 46. and because they solicited youth and parents for participation in its youth programs.
- 47. Defendants owed Plaintiff a duty of reasonable care because they undertook custody of minor children, including Plaintiff.
- Defendants owed Plaintiff a duty of reasonable care because they promoted its 48. facilities and programs as being safe for children.
- 49. Defendants owed Plaintiff a duty of reasonable care because they held out its agents including Fr. Barry Bossa as safe to work with children.
- 50. Defendants owed Plaintiff a duty of reasonable care because they encouraged parents and children to spend time with its agents; and/or encouraged its agents, including Fr. Barry Bossa, to spend time with, interact with, and recruit children.
- 51. Defendants had a duty to Plaintiff to protect him from harm because Defendants' actions created a foreseeable risk of harm to Plaintiff.
  - 52. Defendants breached their duties by exposing Plaintiff to a known pedophile.
- 53. Defendants breached their duties by exposing Plaintiff to a priest Defendants knew or should have known was a pedophile.
- Defendants breached their duties by recruiting, hiring, and maintaining Fr. Barry 54. Bossa in a position of authority over children.
  - 55. Defendants breached their duties by exposing Fr. Barry Bossa to children.

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Defendants breached their duties by leaving Fr. Barry Bossa alone with children 56.

unsupervised.

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57. Defendants breached their duties by inducing Plaintiff and his parents to entrust

Plaintiff to Fr. Barry Bossa.

58. Defendants breached their duties by failing to follow policies and procedures

designed to prevent child sex abuse and/or failing to implement sufficient policies and procedures

to prevent child sex abuse.

59. Defendants breached their duties by failing to take reasonable measures to make

sure that policies and procedures to prevent child sex abuse were working.

60. Defendants breached their duties by failing to adequately inform families and

children of the known risks of child sex abuse within the Archdiocese of New York.

61. Defendants breached their duties by holding out their employees and agents,

including Fr. Barry Bossa, as safe and wholesome for children to be with.

62. Defendants breached their duties by failing to investigate risks of child molestation.

63. Defendants breached their duties by failing to properly train the workers at

institutions and programs within Defendants' geographical confines.

64. Defendants breached their duties by failing to have any outside agency test their

safety procedures.

65. Defendants breached their duties by failing to protect the children in their programs

from child sex abuse; failing to adhere to the applicable standard of care for child safety.

66. Defendants breached their duties by failing to investigate the amount and type of

information necessary to represent the institutions, programs, and leaders and people as safe.

67. Defendants breached their duties by failing to respond to and/or investigate

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information of improper conduct of employee or agent with children, including Fr. Barry Bossa

68. Defendants breached their duties by failing to properly train their employees to identify signs of child molestation by fellow employees.

- 69. Defendants breached their duty to use ordinary care in determining whether their facilities were safe and/or to determine whether they had sufficient information to represent their facilities as safe.
- 70. Defendants breached their duty of care by recruiting, hiring, and maintaining Fr. Barry Bossa at their facilities.
- 71. Defendants breached their duty of care by maintaining a dangerous condition on the premises of their facilities (i.e., a priest Defendants knew or should have known posed a risk of pedophilic harm to children).
- 72. Defendants breached their duty of care by holding out their facilities as a safe and moral place for children, which they were not.
- 73. Defendants breached their duty of care by failing to have sufficient policies and procedures to prevent abuse at their facilities.
- 74. Defendants breached their duty of care by failing to investigate risks at their facilities.
- 75. Defendants breached their duty of care by failing to properly train the workers at their facilities; failing to have any outside agency test their safety procedures.
- 76. Defendants breached their duty of care by failing to investigate the amount and type of information necessary to represent their facilities as safe.
- 77. Defendants breached their duty of care by and failing to train their employees properly to identify signs of child molestation by fellow employees.

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78. Defendants breached their duties to Plaintiff by holding out clergy members, including Fr. Barry Bossa, as safe, moral, and trustworthy people and by failing to warn Plaintiff and his family of the risk that Fr. Barry Bossa posed and the known risks of child sexual abuse by clerics in general.

- 79. Defendants also failed to warn Plaintiff about any of the knowledge that the Defendants had about child sex abuse perpetrated by clergy or Fr. Barry Bossa.
- 80. Defendants breached their duties to Plaintiff by failing to report Fr. Barry Bossa's abuse of children to the police and law enforcement.
- Defendants further breached their duties by hiding a pedophile and engaging in a 81. cover-up of abuse perpetrated by Fr. Barry Bossa.
- 82. Defendants knew or should have known that some of the leaders and people working at Catholic institutions within the Archdiocese of New York were not safe for children.
- 83. Defendants knew or should have known that they did not have sufficient information about whether or not their leaders and people working at Catholic institutions within the Archdiocese of New York were safe around children.
- 84. Defendants knew or should have known that there was a risk of child sex abuse for children participating in Catholic programs and activities within the Archdiocese of New York.
- 85. Defendants knew or should have known that they did not have sufficient information about whether or not there was a risk of child sex abuse for children participating in Catholic programs and activities within the Archdiocese of New York.
- 86. Defendants knew or should have known that they had other agents who had sexually molested children. Defendants knew or should have known that child molesters have a high rate of recidivism. Defendants knew or should have known that there was a specific danger

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of child sex abuse for children participating in Defendants' youth programs.

87. Defendants held their leaders and agents out as people of high morals, as possessing immense power, teaching families and children to obey these leaders and agents, teaching families and children to respect and revere these leaders and agents, soliciting youth and families to their programs, schools, marketing to youth and families, recruiting youth and families, and holding out

the people that worked in the programs as safe for children/youth.

88. Defendants made negligent representations to Plaintiff and his family during each

and every year of his minority. Plaintiff and/or his family relied upon these representations, which

resulted in Plaintiff being put in a vulnerable situation with Fr. Barry Bossa who harmed him.

89. In approximately the summer of 1991 or 1992, when Plaintiff was approximately

14 to 15 years old, Plaintiff was a parishioner at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. At about this same time,

Fr. Barry Bossa sexually abused Plaintiff.

90. Fr. Barry Bossa engaged in unpermitted, harmful, and offensive sexual contact with

the Plaintiff on the physical premises of and around Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. Fr. Barry Bossa

sexually assaulted Plaintiff when Plaintiff was a minor and without Plaintiff's consent.

91. Defendants allowed Fr. Barry Bossa to have unsupervised and unlimited access to

young children at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel located at the time within the Archdiocese of New

York.

92. At all times material, Fr. Barry Bossa was employed by, or an agent of, Defendants

Archdiocese of New York, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, and the Pallottines.

93. At all times material, Fr. Barry Bossa was on duty as a priest 24 hours per day, 7

days per week.

94. At all times material, Fr. Barry Bossa remained under the direct supervision,

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employ, and control of the Defendants Archdiocese of New York, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, and the Pallottines.

- 95. At all times material, Defendants had the right to control the means and manner of Fr. Barry Bossa's performance.
- At all times material, Defendants paid Fr. Barry Bossa's salary and paid for Fr. 96. Barry Bossa's health insurance and other benefits.
- 97. At all times material, Defendants furnished an office and other materials, supplies, and tools required for Fr. Barry Bossa to perform in his position as a priest.
- 98. At all times material, Defendants controlled the premises where Fr. Barry Bossa performed as a priest.
- 99. At all times material, Defendants had the power to terminate the employment of Fr. Barry Bossa.
- 100. Upon information and belief, before Plaintiff was sexually abused by Fr. Barry Bossa, Defendants had actual or constructive knowledge of material facts regarding Fr. Barry Bossa's sexual misconduct, impulses, and behavior, but failed to act on that knowledge and exposed Plaintiff as a child to Fr. Barry Bossa, thereby increasing the likelihood that Plaintiff would be harmed.
- As a direct result of Defendants' negligence, breached duties, the sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, and Defendants' conduct, Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer great pain of mind and body, severe and permanent emotional distress, physical manifestations of emotional distress, embarrassment, loss of self-esteem, humiliation and psychological injuries, was prevented and will continue to be prevented from performing him normal daily activities and obtaining the full enjoyment of life, has incurred and will continue to incur expenses for medical

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and psychological treatment, therapy, and counseling all to this Plaintiff's damage in excess of the jurisdiction of all lower courts.

## AS FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION FOR RESPONDEAT SUPERIOR/VICARIOUS LIABILITY AGAINST THE DEFENDANTS ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK, OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL, AND SOCIETY OF THE CATHOLIC APOSTOLATE - QUEEN OF THE APOSTLES PROVINCE A/K/A THE **PALLOTTINES**

- 102. Plaintiff realleges, incorporates and restates all previous paragraphs as if set forth fully herein.
- 103. Among other duties, Defendants employed Fr. Barry Bossa to operate programs, including youth, altar boy and spiritual counseling programs at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.
- 104. Defendants created a master-servant relationship with Fr. Barry Bossa, employing him to interact and supervise children participating in programs at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.
- 105. The unwanted contact by Fr. Barry Bossa upon Plaintiff occurred during his regular working hours and at the place of his employment with Defendants while performing duties of a priest on behalf of his employers.
- 106. The sexual contact by Fr. Barry Bossa occurred in the course and scope of his employment with Defendants.
  - The sexual contact by Fr. Barry Bossa was generally foreseeable to Defendants. 107.
- 108. The sexual contact by Fr. Barry Bossa was closely connected to what he was employed to do as a priest with Defendants, and/or was otherwise naturally incidental to his job duties.
- 109. Fr. Barry Bossa's conduct was motivated, at least in part, by a desire to serve his employer's business interests or otherwise meet the objectives of his employment, however misguided.

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110. Alternatively, Fr. Barry Bossa's conduct constituted an authorized, minor deviation from his employment that was authorized and/or ratified by Defendants.

111. As a direct and proximate result of Fr. Barry Bossa's conduct, Plaintiff has suffered damages for which his employer is now liable.

AS FOR A THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENT HIRING, RETENTION AND SUPERVISION AGAINST THE DEFENDANTS ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK, OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL, AND SOCIETY OF THE CATHOLIC APOSTOLATE - QUEEN OF THE APOSTLES PROVINCE A/K/A THE PALLOTTINES

- Plaintiff realleges, incorporates and restates all previous paragraphs as if set forth 112. fully herein.
- 113. At all material times, Defendants Archdiocese of New York, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, and the Pallottines, by and through their agents, managers, employees, and directors owed a duty to Plaintiff to use reasonable care to protect his safety, care, well-being and health while he was under the care, custody or in the presence of the Defendants. These duties encompassed the use of reasonable care in the hiring, retention and supervision of Fr. Barry Bossa and otherwise providing a safe environment for children.
- 114. Prior to the sexual misconduct perpetrated by Fr. Barry Bossa upon Plaintiff, Defendants Archdiocese of New York, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, and the Pallottines knew, or in the exercise of reasonable care, should have known, of the general problem of Catholic clergy engaging in sexual misconduct with children who were in Archdiocese of New York, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, and the Pallottines' programs.
- Prior to the sexual misconduct perpetrated by Fr. Barry Bossa upon Plaintiff, 115. Defendants Archdiocese of New York, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, and the Pallottines knew, or in the exercise of reasonable care, should have known, that Fr. Barry Bossa was unfit for the duties

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assigned to him, that he did not exhibit appropriate behavior with children, and otherwise posed a risk of perpetrating unwanted sexual contact upon children.

Given actual or constructive knowledge of Fr. Barry Bossa's dangerous 116. propensities specifically, the Defendants had a duty to act reasonably in all decisions relating to his hiring, supervision, and retention as an employee.

Defendants failed to exercise reasonable care in one or more of their decisions to 117. hire, supervise, and retain Fr. Barry Bossa and therefore exposed Plaintiff to an unreasonable risk of harm.

118. Defendants Archdiocese of New York, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, and the Pallottines affirmed and ratified Fr. Barry Bossa's misconduct with Plaintiff. Given the actual and constructive knowledge of the likelihood that Fr. Barry Bossa and/or other clergy would engage children in unwanted sexual contact, the unwanted sexual contact of Plaintiff was reasonably foreseeable to Defendants Archdiocese of New York, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, and the Pallottines.

- Defendants Archdiocese of New York, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, and the Pallottines and their agents had superior knowledge of the likelihood that Fr. Barry Bossa would engage in unwanted sexual contact with clients that he encountered in his position as a priest and had a duty to take precautions to lessen the risk that Plaintiff would be the victim of unwanted sexual contact.
- 120. At all relevant times, Defendants Archdiocese of New York's and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel 's acts and omissions created an environment which fostered unwanted sexual contact and exploitation against the people it had a duty to protect, including Plaintiff.
- At all relevant times, Defendants had inadequate policies and procedures to protect 121. children entrusted to their care and protection, including Plaintiff, which substantially contributed to the creation of a dangerous environment.

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122. As a direct and proximate result of the negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff suffered severe and permanent psychological, emotional and physical injuries, shame, humiliation and the inability to lead a normal life, and has incurred and/or will incur costs for treatment and will continue to do so in the future. These injuries are permanent and ongoing in nature.

## AS FOR A FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION FOR PREMISES LIABILITY AGAINST THE DEFENDANTS ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK, OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL, AND SOCIETY OF THE CATHOLIC APOSTOLATE - QUEEN OF THE APOSTLES PROVINCE A/K/A THE PALLOTTINES

- 123. Plaintiff realleges, incorporates and restates all previous paragraphs as if set forth fully herein.
- 124. Plaintiff was a business invitee of Defendants when Fr. Barry Bossa engaged him in unwanted sexual contact.
- Defendants owed Plaintiff a duty to protect him from dangerous conditions on their 125. premises that they knew about, or in the exercise of reasonable care could have discovered.
- 126. Defendants owed Plaintiff a duty to provide a reasonably safe environment where he would be free from the threat of unwanted sexual contact while on Defendants' premises.
- Defendants owed Plaintiff a duty to take reasonable precautions to ensure his safety 127. while on the premises of Defendants.
- Prior to the sexual misconduct perpetrated by Fr. Barry Bossa upon Plaintiff, 128. Defendants knew, or in the exercise of reasonable care, should have known, of the general problem of priests and other clergy engaging in sexual misconduct with children.
- 129. Prior to the sexual misconduct perpetrated by Fr. Barry Bossa upon Plaintiff, Defendants knew, or in the exercise of reasonable care, should have known, that Fr. Barry Bossa was unfit for the intimate duties assigned to him, that he did not exhibit appropriate behavior with children, and otherwise posed a risk of perpetrating unwanted sexual contact upon children.

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130. Defendants breached the duty owed to Plaintiff by failing to make the premises

reasonably safe for Plaintiff despite what they knew or should have known about the existence of

a potential threat of harm to Plaintiff on their premises.

131. Defendants breached the duty they owed to Plaintiff by failing to warn Plaintiff of

the dangers and risks involved in participating in programs at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel given their

superior knowledge of the potential risk of harm to Plaintiff.

132. At all relevant times, Defendants had inadequate policies and procedures to protect

children entrusted to their care and protection, including Plaintiff, which substantially contributed

to the creation of a dangerous environment.

133. As a direct and proximate result of the negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff suffered

severe and permanent psychological, emotional and physical injuries, shame, humiliation and the

inability to lead a normal life, and has incurred and/or will incur costs for treatment and will

continue to do so in the future. These injuries are permanent and ongoing in nature.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against the Defendant for a sum in excess of

the jurisdictional limits of all lower courts on each and every Cause of Action stated above,

together with the costs and disbursements and other expenses necessary in this action.

New York, New York

Dated: September 17, 2019

Yours, etc.,

Patrick Noaker

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atal Nooten

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### **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF Florida ) ss COUNTY OF Palm Beach )

**PAUL F. PAOLICELLI, JR.** being duly sworn, deposes and says: I am the Plaintiff in this action, I have read the foregoing **COMPLAINT** and know the contents thereof; the same is true to my own knowledge, except as to those matters therein to be alleged on information and belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true.

PAUL F. PAOLICELLI, JR.

Notary Paris My COMMISSION # GG051036
EXPIRES November 29, 2020